

SENATE HEARING SLIP

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 3/5/02

BILL NO. AB682

SUBJECT

(NAME) Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig

(Street Address or Route Number) State Capitol

(City and Zip Code) 126 South

(Representing) 5th Senate District

Speaking in Favor: ☐

Speaking Against: ☐

Registering in Favor: ☐

but not speaking: ☒

Registering Against: ☐

but not speaking: ☐

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against: ☐

Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY.

Senate Sergeant-At-Arms
State Capitol - B35 South
P.O. Box 7862
Madison, WI 53707-7862

SENATE HEARING SLIP

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 3/5/02

BILL NO. AB 682

SUBJECT

(NAME) E. Joe Murray

(Street Address or Route Number) 4801 Forest Ave. Rd.

(City and Zip Code) Madison, WI 53704

(Representing) WI Realtors Assoc.

Speaking in Favor: ☐

Speaking Against: ☐

Registering in Favor: ☐

but not speaking: ☒

Registering Against: ☐

but not speaking: ☐

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against: ☐

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Senate Sergeant-At-Arms
State Capitol - B35 South
P.O. Box 7862
Madison, WI 53707-7862

SENATE HEARING SLIP

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: March 5, 2002

BILL NO. Assembly Bill 682

SUBJECT

(NAME) Jay Heck executive

(Street Address or Route Number) 152 W. Johnson St. #212

(City and Zip Code) Madison, WI 53703

(Representing) Common Cause in Wisconsin

Speaking in Favor: ☐

Speaking Against: ☐

Registering in Favor: ☐

but not speaking: ☒

Registering Against: ☐

but not speaking: ☐

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against: ☐

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P.O. Box 7862
Madison, WI 53707-7862

SENATE HEARING SLIP

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 3/5/02

BILL NO. AB 682
OR

SUBJECT _____

Sandra Smith
(NAME)

210 N. Bassett St. Ste. 215

(Street Address or Route Number)

Madison, WI 53703
(City and Zip Code)

WI Democracy Campaign
(Representing)

Speaking in Favor: ☒

Speaking Against: ☐

Registering in Favor:

but not speaking: ☐

Registering Against:

but not speaking: ☐

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against: ☐

Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY.

Senate Sergeant-At-Arms
State Capitol - B35 South
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

SENATE HEARING SLIP

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 3/5/02

BILL NO. AB 682
OR

SUBJECT _____

Rep. Mark Gundrum
(NAME)

(Street Address or Route Number)

(City and Zip Code)

(Representing)

Speaking in Favor: ☒

Speaking Against: ☐

Registering in Favor:

but not speaking: ☐

Registering Against:

but not speaking: ☐

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against: ☐

Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY.

Senate Sergeant-At-Arms
State Capitol - B35 South
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

**Senate Committee on Judiciary, Consumer Affairs and Campaign
Finance Reform**

Request for Paper Ballot Executive Action on 2001 Assembly Bill 682

The Senate Committee on Judiciary, Consumer Affairs and Campaign Finance Reform was unable to hold a formal Executive Session on Assembly Bill 578 as planned. We would like to conduct a paper ballot on the bill. **Please return your ballot to Sen. George's office (Room 118 South) by 5:00 PM, Friday, March 8, 2002.**

Concurrence in Assembly Bill 682:

_____ X _____ Moved (Optional -- Please check if you wish to Move
Concurrence in the Bill)

_____ X _____ Seconded (Optional -- Please check if you wish to Second
Concurrence in the Bill)

_____ X _____ Aye (In Favor of Concurrence in the Bill)

_____ _____ No (Oppose Concurrence in the Bill)

Signed: _____

Joanne Heelsman
By PR via phone

Friday, March 8, 2002

Please return to Sen. George's Office by 5:00 PM, Friday, March 8, 2002.

**Senate Committee on Judiciary, Consumer Affairs and Campaign
Finance Reform**

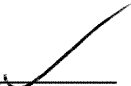
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Concurrence in Assembly Bill 682:

_____ Moved (Optional -- Please check if you wish to Move
Concurrence in the Bill)

_____ Seconded (Optional -- Please check if you wish to Second
Concurrence in the Bill)

_____  Aye (In Favor of Concurrence in the Bill)

_____ No (Oppose Concurrence in the Bill)

Signed:  Friday, March 8, 2002

Please return to Sen. George's Office by 5:00 PM, Friday, March 8, 2002.

**Senate Committee on Judiciary, Consumer Affairs and Campaign
Finance Reform**

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Concurrence in Assembly Bill 682:

_____ Moved (Optional -- Please check if you wish to Move
Concurrence in the Bill)

_____ Seconded (Optional -- Please check if you wish to Second
Concurrence in the Bill)

✓ _____ **Aye** (In Favor of Concurrence in the Bill)

_____ **No** (Oppose Concurrence in the Bill)

Signed: _____

Fred Rosen
ca

Friday, March 8, 2002

Please return to Sen. George's Office by 5:00 PM, Friday, March 8, 2002.

**Senate Committee on Judiciary, Consumer Affairs and Campaign
Finance Reform**


Request for Paper Ballot Executive Action on 2001 Assembly Bill 682

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Concurrence in Assembly Bill 682:

_____ Moved (Optional -- Please check if you wish to Move
Concurrence in the Bill)

_____ Seconded (Optional -- Please check if you wish to Second
Concurrence in the Bill)

_____  **Aye** (In Favor of Concurrence in the Bill)

_____ **No** (Oppose Concurrence in the Bill)

Signed: Robert W. Wrench

Friday, March 8, 2002

Please return to Sen. George's Office by 5:00 PM, Friday, March 8, 2002.

Wisconsin Democracy Campaign

210 NORTH BASSETT STREET • SUITE 215 • MADISON, WI 53703 • 608-255-4260

**Testimony of
Mike McCabe, Executive Director
Wisconsin Democracy Campaign
in favor of Assembly Bill 682**

**Senate Judiciary, Consumer Affairs and Campaign Finance Reform Committee
March 5, 2002**

On behalf of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, I urge you to pass Assembly Bill 682.

It is a sad commentary on the current ethical climate in Wisconsin government that such legislation is needed. But it *is* needed. Political corruption has taken root in Wisconsin, and it is poisoning the legislative process and trashing our state's once-proud reputation for clean, open and accountable government.

In the last year, over a half-dozen lobbyists have come to us and described in explicit detail the shakedowns they've experienced at the hands of legislative leaders. Some were threatened with a loss of access if their clients didn't make the campaign donations leaders sought. Others were told in no uncertain terms that they would not get items they desired in the budget or favorable treatment of bills they support unless they made the campaign contributions leaders demanded. They all were told how much they had to give and to whom the donations should be given. Call it what it is – extortion.

The same people who came to us and no doubt many more are now sharing their stories with prosecutors. You are considering AB 682 in the midst of Wisconsin's deepest and widest political scandal in my memory or yours.

Nowhere is the impact of the shakedowns AB 682 would explicitly ban more noticeable than in the state budget process. The budget quite literally has been put up for sale to the highest bidder, and the auction is costing ordinary taxpayers a bundle. Our research shows lawmakers from both parties who had a hand in crafting the budget offered an array of tax breaks, pork barrel spending and other budget favors worth \$819 million – at a cost of \$211 for every Wisconsin tax filer – to special interests who contributed a record \$1.6 million while budget decisions were being made.

Our report on budget pork reveals just a partial accounting of the cost of political graft in Wisconsin – \$211 for each and every taxpayer for just this one bill, the biennial state budget bill. (WDC's report on special interest pork in the state budget bill is available online at: www.wisdc.org/hey_bidder_release.htm)

While we support AB 682 and urge you to pass it, this legislation will do no good if it is enacted but other sorely needed reforms are not. For example, a law explicitly banning the practice of trading votes for campaign donations will do nothing if it is not enforced. And the state ethics and elections boards hardly have track records that indicate they will strictly enforce any of our campaign finance or ethics laws. These regulatory agencies are simply not doing their jobs and need to be overhauled. This assessment is not a reflection on the staffs of these agencies, it is an indictment of the makeup of the boards themselves.

The Elections Board is a classic example of the fox guarding the hen house. It is routinely failing to act in the public interest, and it is failing because its structure is fatally flawed. Members are appointed by the very people they are supposed to regulate, so it is no surprise the Board is the captive of the political power brokers. It is not a jury of citizens' peers, it is a jury of the politicians' pals.

Similarly, the Ethics Board has failed to do its job. The degraded ethical climate in Wisconsin is the ultimate indictment of the board. Lobbyists have been coming to us for a year or more and describing illegal shakedowns in gory detail, and I know the Ethics Board has been hearing the same stories for at least as long. But they've taken no apparent action.

A pay-to-play prohibition also will do little good if the legislature fails to enact comprehensive campaign finance reforms that put an end to the incessant and insane money chase driven by the spiraling cost of campaigns. This money chase is the root cause of the problem AB 682 seeks to address.

Comprehensive reform legislation like Senate Bill 104 would put enforceable spending limits in place that would stop the political arms race in Wisconsin. And it would ban fundraising during the state budget process, ending the invitation to corruption that inspired AB 682. The public policy auction that wound up costing every taxpayer well over \$200 would no longer be held.

Again, AB 682 is good legislation that deserves to be passed. But it is only one step in what has to be a very long journey if lawmakers are serious about rooting out political corruption in Wisconsin.